

DECLARATION, POWER OF ATTORNEY AND PETITION

I, William Michael Lafferty, declare that I am a citizen of the United States of America; that my residence and post office address is 1456 Sanford Lane, Encinitas, California 92024; that I verily believe I am the original, first, and sole inventor of the subject matter of the invention or discovery entitled A GIGAMATRIX HOLDING TRAY HAVING THROUGH-HOLE WELLS, for which a patent is sought and which is described and claimed in the specification attached hereto; that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims; and that I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with Section 1.56(a) of Title 37 of the Code of Federal Regulations.

I hereby claim the benefit under Section 120 of Title 35 of the United States Code of the earlier filed pending U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/894,956 filed June 27, 2001, which is a continuation-in-part of pending U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/687,219, filed October 12, 2000, which is a continuation-in-part of pending U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/444,112, filed November 22, 1999, which is a continuation-in-part of pending U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/876,276, filed June 16, 1997; additionally, the present application is a continuation-in-part of pending U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/636,778, filed August 11, 2000, which application is a continuation and claims the benefit of priority under 35 U.S.C. § 120 of U.S. Patent

Application Serial No. 09/098,206, filed June 16, 1998, which issued as U.S. Patent No. 6,174,673 on January 16, 2001, which is a continuation-in-part of pending U. S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/876,276, filed June 16, 1997; and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the earlier filed pending application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Section 112 of Title 35 of the United States Code, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information, as defined in Section 1.56(a) of Title 37 of the Code of Federal Regulations, which occurred between the filing date of the earlier filed application and the filing date of this application.

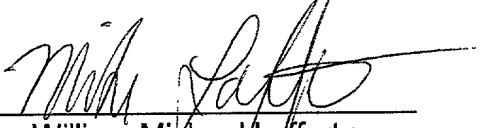
I declare further that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful, false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful, false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

I hereby appoint as my attorneys NEIL K. NYDEGGER, Registration No. 30,202, MATTHEW K. HILLMAN, Registration No. 45,892 and NICOLE CHYOKO IIDA, Registration No. 48,906, with full power of substitution and revocation, to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith. All correspondence and telephonic communications should be directed to:

Neil K. Nydegger, Esq.  
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Wherefore, I pray that a letters patent be granted to me for the invention or discovery described and claimed in the foregoing specification and claims, declaration, power of attorney, and this petition.

Signed at San Diego, California, this 15<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2002.

Inventor   
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declpoapet:ddb  
Docket: 11335.2